

Preface

This issue of the *IBM Journal of Research and Development* notes the 35th anniversary of Rolf W. Landauer, IBM Fellow, with this Corporation and, coincidentally, his sixtieth birthday. The papers in this issue, in part, reflect a symposium organized in his honor by Markus Büttiker, Seymour P. Keller, and Marc H. Brodsky on "Basic Concepts in Quantum and Stochastic Transport" held at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, New York, on June 19th, 1987. Some of the papers presented at the symposium are not in this issue; on the other hand, many of the papers are from colleagues who could not participate in the symposium. All the papers, however, are in homage to Dr. Landauer for his original contributions, which over the span of his career have provided the paths for others to follow. The topics of the papers are loosely grouped into three areas reflecting a portion of Rolf Landauer's personal scientific interests: (1) the fundamental physical limits of the computational process, (2) electron transport theory, and (3) noise-activated escape from the metastable state.

Markus Büttiker
Guest Editor